

Claims

- 1 1. A computerized system for producing a domestic relations order comprising:
2 a receiver for receiving information relating to a domestic relations order;
3 a rules engine in communication with the receiver for authenticating the received
4 information; and
5 a document assembler for automatically incorporating the authenticated
6 information into an assembled domestic relations order.
- 1 2. The system of claim 1 wherein a subset of the received information is received from a
2 participant in an employee benefit plan.
- 1 3. The system of claim 2 wherein, in addition to the subset of the information received from
2 the participant, additional data is received from a legal representative of the participant.
- 1 4. The system of claim 3 wherein, in addition to the subset of the information received from
2 the participant and the legal representative of the participant, additional information is further
3 received from an alternate payee of the employee benefit plan.
- 1 5. The system of claim 4 wherein, in addition to the subset of the information received from
2 the participant, the legal representative of the participant, and the alternate payee of the employee
3 benefit plan, additional information is further received from a legal representative of the alternate
4 payee of the employee benefit plan.
- 1 6. The system of claim 1 further including a data storage device for storing rules relating to
2 a domestic relations order.
- 1 7. The system of claim 6 wherein the data storage device further stores sample text
2 passages.

- 1 8. The system of claim 7 wherein the sample text passages relate to a domestic relations
2 order.
- 1 9. The system of claim 7 wherein the rules engine further selects a subset of the sample text
2 passages based, at least in part, on the stored rules.
- 1 10. The system of claim 7 wherein the rules engine further selects a subset of the sample text
2 passages based, at least in part, on the received information.
- 1 11. The system of claim 6 wherein the document assembler receives at least a subset of the
2 information from the data storage device, the subset of received information having been
3 previously included in a domestic relations order.
- 1 12. The system of claim 1 further comprising an administrative module for maintaining the
2 rules engine.
- 1 13. A computerized method for producing a domestic relations order, comprising:
2 providing a plurality of sample text passages relating to domestic relations orders,
3 the sample text passages including embedded parameters;
4 requesting information for inclusion into a domestic relations order, the requested
5 information including values for one or more of the embedded parameters;
6 receiving the requested information; and
7 automatically assembling the domestic relations order using a subset of the
8 sample text passages and at least a subset of the received information.
- 1 14. The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving the information over an electronic
2 communications network.
- 1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the electronic communications network is one of a local
2 area network, a wide area network, a telephone network, an intranet, or the Internet.

- 1 16. The method of claim 14 further comprising receiving the information through an online
2 questionnaire.
- 1 17. The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving at least a subset of the information
2 from a previously completed domestic relations order.
- 1 18. The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving at least a subset of the information
2 from a participant in an employee benefit plan.
- 1 19. The method of claim 18 wherein the employee benefits plan is one of a defined
2 contribution plan and a defined benefit plan.
- 1 20. The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving at least a subset of the information
2 from a legal representative of a participant in an employee benefit plan.
- 1 21. The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving at least a subset of the information
2 from an alternate payee of an employee benefit plan.
- 1 22. The method of claim 21 further comprising receiving at least a subset of the information
2 from a legal representative of the alternate payee of an employee benefit plan.
- 1 23. The method of claim 22 further comprising providing a set of rules relating to the
2 composition of a domestic relations order.
- 1 24. The method of claim 23 wherein the assembly step further comprises determining the
2 subset of the sample text passages based, at least in part, on the rules.
- 1 25. The method of claim 13 wherein the designating step further comprises determining if
2 the domestic relations order is compliant with the Internal Revenue Code and Employee
3 Retirement Income Security Act.

1 26. A computerized system for producing a domestic relations order, comprising:
2 means for storing sample text passages for inclusion into a domestic relations
3 order, the sample text passages including embedded parameters;
4 means for receiving information about a first domestic relations order, the
5 information providing values for one or more of the embedded parameters; and
6 means for automatically assembling a domestic relations order from a the
7 received information and a subset of the stored sample text.